



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Water Resources Board**

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**RHODE ISLAND WATER RESOURCES BOARD
MEETING #489**

Monday, July 20, 2009 @ 12:00 Noon

Members Present

William Penn, Chairman
Harold Ward
June Swallow*
Jon Schock
Kevin Flynn
Jesse Rodrigues
Pam Marchand
Samuel Kitchell
Michael Walker
Allan Klepper
Ronnie Gibson
Michael Sullivan

Members Absent

William Parsons*
William Stamp III

Guests Present

Henry Meyer, KWD
Elizabeth Scott, DEM

Staff Present

Kenneth Burke, General Manager
Kathleen Crawley, Staff Director
Romeo Mendes, Supervising Engineer
William Rivero, Programming Services Officer
Peter Duhamel, Principal Planner
Emily Cousineau, Implementation Aide

*Member Designees

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Penn called the meeting to order at 12:05, noting that a quorum was present.

2. MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Shock, second by Mr. Penn to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2009 Board Meeting #488. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Penn introduced Mr. Allan Klepper, a new Board member appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. Mr. Klepper offered a brief overview of his background. Mr. Penn spoke about the passage of Article 5 (art.005/3/005/2), which turns the responsibilities of Board Corporate to Clean Water Finance in 2014. Mr. Penn noted that the Board itself may be at risk of being dissolved. He suggested submitting legislation that allows the WRBC to retain programmatic responsibilities. He requested that, for the September meeting, the Board have a work session to discuss its business plan, readjust priorities, expand programs, and set measurable objectives to complete projects. The outcomes of this session would be presented to the legislature.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Rodrigues to accept the Chief Business Officer's Report for June 2009. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

Discussion:

The staff was asked to evaluate the \$138,000 that was not spent.

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Burke noted the staff's responsibilities to validate financial options in regards to Article 5. He stated the need to produce an annual report to show what the Board has achieved and plans to produce.

(12:23p.m. – Mr. Gibson enters)

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTION ITEMS:

A. South County Well Grant Application – Request for Approval

Motion by Mr. Sullivan, second by Ms. Swallow to distribute application guidelines and convene a meeting of the technical committee. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

Discussion:

Mr. Burke reported that the town representatives and land trust groups he had spoken with are excited for the program. He intends to distribute the packets to municipalities with the next week. In October, the Technical committee will put a ranking criterion in place to evaluate the applications appropriately.

(12:30p.m. – Mr. Sullivan enters)

Board members offered feedback to Mr. Burke about the wording of specific questions and the application's structure.

B. Board Committees, Structure and Membership – Request for Approval

Motion by Mr. Sullivan, second by Ms. Swallow to ratify the committee structure and memberships. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. Finance Committee - **Chair William Penn**

i. Budget Update (FY 2009 – FY 2010) – Request for Approval

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Gibson to accept the updates and to authorize the General Manager to continue updating the budget as the situation changes. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

Discussion:

Changes had been made to the Budget since the Board package was distributed. This was due to the dynamic nature of the Budget office. Some of the operating expenses have now been added into the Capital Budget.

B. Legislative & Regulations Committee – Chair Harold Ward

i. Update, Review and Action 2009 Legislation - Update

Mr. Ward reported on the promising H5828 and S0732 that will likely pass in the last week of July. He suggested that the Board should advocate for the bills directly.

Mr. Penn stated that he and Mr. Burke will draft letters to House and Senate leaders in support of the bills.

8. RECESS OF BOARD FOR BOARD CORPORATE BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Sullivan, second by Mr. Gibson to recess the Board Meeting and begin the Board Corporate Meeting at 12:50p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

9. RETURN FROM BOARD CORPORATE BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Sullivan, second by Mr. Schock to return to the Board meeting from Board Corporate at 12:54p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Sullivan, second by Mr. Ward to adjourn the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 12:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Emily Cousineau
Implementation Aide

The meeting place is accessible to the handicapped in conformance with RIGL 42-46-2. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Board office at tel. 222-1450/TDD 2221454, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date. If requested, tapes of the meeting will be made available.